

FEWER CHILDREN IN MISSOURI

SCHOOL CENSUS SHOWS FALLING OFF OF 6,000 SINCE LAST YEAR.

NO REASON FOR DECREASE

Rural Districts Show Largest Losses With Cities Stationary—Fund Now About Ready for Distribution to Counties.

Jefferson City, Mo. The school population of Missouri is declining. The loss since 1916 is 6,183. The loss in 1915 from 1914 was 1,132. The school population, as certified by the various county officials, to the state superintendent of public schools is 919,321. The previous year it was 925,504. The loss is largely in the rural districts.

Jackson county, including Kansas City, gained only nine in school population in the last year. Livingston county shows a gain of over 2,000.

The state superintendent of public schools, who apportions the money does not offer any reason for the decline. The enumeration is made by local officials and every county is interested in having every pupil counted, for this means more money, although the money is not now distributed alone on population, as attendance records, salaries paid teachers, and other matters are also considered.

Most of the gains in the rural districts are to be found in Southeast Missouri, with New Madrid, Pemiscot, Dunklin and Cape Girardeau counties leading.

Conduct Series of Experiments.

In an effort to increase the wheat crop for the coming year, the state board of agriculture is conducting an educational campaign among the farmers of the state, and has issued bulletins dealing with the essentials of wheat growing. According to statistics gathered by the board, the average yield of wheat for the state from 1905 to 1914 was 14.7 bushels per acre. Missouri is a corn state rather than a wheat state, but the production in 1916 was 34,000,000 bushels.

Four particular points are made in the course of instruction sent out by the board. They are:

1. Destroy the natural home of the fly by plowing deep and early.
2. Keep down all volunteer wheat between plowing time and seeding.
3. Delay seeding until after the fly-free date.
4. Co-operate with neighbors in the practice of the foregoing measures.

Eight Murderers Paroled.

Eight men convicted of murder and serving long sentences in the penitentiary, were paroled by the state prison board, and all of them have been released. One was serving a life sentence, three were sentenced for 99 years, two for 10 years and one one for 27 years. In the list are three men who had killed their wives.

State Bills Unpaid.

The governor was advised recently in a letter from N. A. McMillan, president of the St. Louis Clearing House, that between \$500,000 and \$600,000 of the bills left by the last administration have not yet been presented to the National Bank of Commerce for payment. Claims to the extent of \$1,600,000 have been presented and paid. McMillan states that the clearing house will not pay bills presented after September 15.

Besiege Gray.

Two of Gov. Gardner's recent appointees have assumed their duties. They are Omar D. Gray, state inspector of oils, and Tim Birmingham, state game and fish commissioner. The headquarters of the oil inspection department will be moved from Hannibal to Jefferson City at once.

The inspector of oils has nine jobs under him. The chief deputyship goes to George Orear of Marshall, a clerk in the office of former State Treasurer Deal. There were 26 applicants for this appointment, and for the less remunerative jobs Gray was besieged by more than 1,000 patriots.

To Supply Prison Water.

Governor Gardner has directed the prison board to terminate the contract under which the Capital City Water Co. collects from the penitentiary approximately \$1,000 per month, and to buy and install machinery with which the state itself will supply water to the prison.

The legislature two years ago appropriated \$25,000 for such machinery, but Governor Major vetoed the bill. A driller has offered to install the machinery needed for \$40,000, and accept payment in installments which will not exceed the sums now paid for water for the state.

Chooses Health Body.

Chairman F. B. Mumford of the state council of defense has announced the appointment of the following committee on public health with almost unlimited powers to investigate sanitary conditions in the state during the period of the war: Dr. A. P. Staffer, head of the medical department of Washington University, St. Louis; Dr. H. E. Pearce of Kansas City; Dr. George H. Jones of Jefferson City, secretary of the state board of health; Dr. W. A. Noyes, head of the medical school at the state university, Columbia; and Dr. W. Loughlin of the medical department of St. Louis University.

Jail Breakers Are Caught.

Farmers in the southern part of this county engaged in a man hunt which resulted in the rounding up of six men who had sawed their way out of the Jefferson City jail. One of the men is Frank Brandon, an ex-convict who is wanted by the government on a charge of counterfeiting. Four of the other prisoners were held for burglaries. After escaping they robbed a store 14 miles south of here and secured \$18, two pistols and some provisions.

Hackmann to Demand Books.

Auditor Hackmann stated that if Dr. C. C. English, former superintendent of the state sanitarium at Mt. Vernon does not produce the records of that institution for inspection by if there is any process of law that experts from the auditor's office he will go to Mt. Vernon himself and see can reach him.

The auditor was informed by his expert accountants whom he had directed to audit the books of the institution that Dr. English was somewhere in Arkansas, and had the records of the institution with him.

Saunders Will Decline Job.

William F. Saunders, secretary of the Missouri council of defense, has declined the appointment as city registrar of St. Louis, made vacant by the death of the late M. R. H. Witter.

"I have taken up the work of the defense council, and believe it is my duty to carry it out. While I appreciate the offer, I cannot accept it."

State Survey of Food.

The Missouri College of Agriculture will receive \$200,000 of the money appropriated under the food survey and food distribution act with which to conduct a state campaign. The work has begun.

Dean Mumford of the agricultural college announced that the campaign is to be divided into three parts. P. H. Ross, state leader of county agricultural agents, began the expanding of the work among county agents in all sections of the state. Miss Bad Bell will have charge of the work of demonstrations and home canning of fruits and vegetables in the cities and towns of the state. Miss Sarah Pettit will have charge of the canning demonstrations and lectures in the rural districts of the state.

L. C. Hackleman will supervise the campaign for an increased wheat acreage. He will visit 70 wheat counties of the state and begin the campaign for an increased acreage.

Game Official Fires Deputies.

Upon taking charge of the state game and fish department, Tim Birmingham, state game and fish commissioner, let out 30 deputies who served under his predecessor, Col. Jesse Jones of Pike county.

Ancient Felon Paroled.

Fifty-three years behind prison walls is the record of Frank H. Punccheon, the oldest man in the Missouri prison, who was paroled to J. B. Bollman of Kansas City, an officer of the Society for the Friendless.

Punccheon is 75 years old, and was paroled largely because of his advanced years and the fact that during the last 10 years his record for obeying all prison rules was excellent.

Mobilization Date Changed.

A change of dates in the mobilization of the first three divisions of the National Army was wired Adjutant General McCord by Provost Marshal General Crowder.

The new dates are: First 30 per cent September 5, second 30 per cent September 19, third 30 per cent October 3.

The remaining 10 per cent of the quota will be called later. The change is in the last named dates, these being originally fixed for September 15 and 30.

The district boards have not yet certified any names to Adjutant General McCord.

Authorize Bond Issue.

The Frisco Railroad has obtained authority from the state public service commission to issue \$7,440,000 of prior lien mortgage bonds, bearing 5 percent interest. Of this sum \$5,587,000 is to reimburse the company for money actually expended in the acquisition of equipment and in the general betterment of the line, and \$1,853,000 for refunding obligations secured by the lien.

BRITISH ADVANCE AGAIN NEAR YPRES

Gen. Haig Reports Capture of German Positions Over a Mile Front.

FRENCH HOLD PRIEST WOOD

Attacks Following Violent Bombardment Are Repulsed, Says Paris—Russians Also Check Teutons.

Washington, Aug. 20.—Although for the most part the British and French forces in Flanders and in the vicinity of Lens, are consolidating positions won last week from Crown Prince Rupprecht, the British near Ypres have made a further advance on a mile front to a depth of about 500 yards, and also in the Somme region have renewed their attacks with advantage. In the latter maneuver Field Marshal Haig's men captured positions near Epehy, inflicting heavy losses on the Germans.

The Germans have been trying the strength of the French lines in the Vosges mountain region, where, after heavy bombardments, they attacked the French around Badonville and north of Celles-sur-Plane. Their efforts went for naught under fire of French guns and rifles.

Airmen of the allies are working havoc with German fliers on German positions far behind the lines. In fights on Saturday French airmen accounted for seventeen German aircraft and British fliers for seven, which were destroyed or forced to land inside the Teutonic lines, badly battered.

Along the Aisne front and in the Verdun sector, along the banks of the river Meuse, continued attempts by the German crown prince to break the French lines met with failure.

German Attacks Fail.

Paris, Aug. 20.—After violent bombardings the French positions German troops last night made consecutive attacks on the French trenches in the Priest wood, west of the Muerthe and Moselle river and in the Vosges mountains to the east of Badonville and north of Celles-sur-Plaine. The French official report issued today says all the German assaults were repulsed and that the Teutons suffered heavy casualties. German surprise attacks on the Aisne front, it is announced, also failed.

Russians Repulse Teutons.

Petrograd, Aug. 20.—German troops yesterday attacked the Russian positions near the village of Stakhovoy on the Vilna front, but, according to the Petrograd war office, the attack broke down under the Russian fire.

On the Rumanian front Austro-Germans several times assaulted the Russo-Rumanian lines south of Grozchti, in southwestern Moldavia, but were repelled. The battle in the Slanic region lasted all day and ended in the evening with the Teutons being repulsed.

Counter Attacks Fail.

Their counter attacks having failed with severe losses, the Germans in the Ypres area of the western front have not resumed attempts to recapture the ground lost to the Anglo-French troops on Thursday.

On the northern wing of the Ypres front the French, after repulsing heavy German counter attacks on Friday, made further gains near the Steenbeke river. Elsewhere on this front, the latest report from Field Marshal Haig says there has been no change. In addition to their capture of more than 1,800 prisoners the allied forces captured twenty-four guns from the Teutons.

Berlin Claims Victory.

While admitting an allied gain along the Yser canal and near Bixchoote, where the French advanced, Berlin claims officially that most of the British attacks were repulsed, and that Langemarck is still in German hands. This claim of the German general staff is officially denied in a London report, which says that the British hold not only Langemarck, but also ground beyond the village. London also officially denied that the fighting front was twenty miles long, as Berlin declares. Field Marshal Haig on Thursday reported the fighting front in the Ypres area as being nine miles in length. The German general staff reports Thursday's fighting as a "full victory" for the Teutons, although admitting some reverses and claiming no gains.

Canadians Are Active.

Between Loos and Lens the Canadians are plunging away toward the capture of the last named place. They have consolidated and made secure their recent gains and have made further progress west of Lens. The number of prisoners taken here by the Canadians now total 1,150.

STORE THE POTATO

ARRANGEMENTS FOR CONSERVING THE COUNTRY'S SUPPLY.

Government Officials Tell of the Facilities That Have Been Provided—Complete Plan of Action Has Been Mapped Out.

Washington.—Means of conserving the nation's potato supply in the most effective manner have been worked out by food administration officials. They have issued the following statement:

Unusual facilities for financing storage are offered American potato growers as a result of war conditions. The federal reserve system is at their disposal, and farmers who store their 1917 potato crop in approved local warehouses, may obtain, upon their storage receipts, 90-day loans from member banks of the reserve system at a rate not to exceed 6 per cent. Mr. Lou D. Sweet, potato expert with the food administration, was instrumental in bringing this matter to the reserve board's attention.

New England growers have started a movement to take advantage of this ruling to help them solve their marketing problem. The prospect which the growers of this group of states face is that of handling 45,000,000 bushels of potatoes—one-tenth of the entire United States crop—without causing an overstocked market and the resulting loss of all profit on the crop.

The growers communicated with local authorities in their respective states, who in turn laid the situation before the food administration. A conference between the growers, local authorities and experts from the food administration was held recently at Boston, Mass. A plan of action was mapped out at this meeting which includes the following:

1. Marketing of only one-third of the crop at harvest time; another third in 90 days, or placing in storage and later distributed as demand affords opportunity; the remaining third to be stored by the grower and marketed throughout the year.

2. All potatoes to be graded with care, taking out culls, cuts, cracks and any that are bruised. It was recommended that a wire screen grader be used—one and seven-eighths-inch mesh for oblong tubers and two-inch mesh for round ones. Graded stock then to be placed in good two-bushel sacks—one hundred and fifteen pounds to the sack—and the sacks sewed tightly so as to prevent shucking and bruising.

3. Increasing the load in each railroad car from the normal 30,000 pounds. That these cars can be unloaded within 24 to 36 hours of their arrival at destination.

4. That municipalities and other bodies provide storage for as large quantities as possible at the peak of the harvest. "A storage house," said Lou D. Sweet, who attended this meeting, "such as will conform to the requirements laid down by the Federal Reserve board, does not call for a specially constructed house. There are innumerable buildings, which, if properly cleaned, ventilation provided, and managed so as to maintain a temperature of about 35 degrees, will answer admirably for this purpose."

"This year the United States planted its potato crop from the poorest quality of seed that ever went into the ground, and naturally the harvest will be potatoes of poor quality. Strict grading, careful packing, common-sense storage, and careful shipping are necessary to insure just returns to the growers who have responded to the president's call for increased production of potatoes."

SHE HAD WAYWARD DAUGHTER

Neighbor Was Surprised When She Found Cause of Severe Rebuke Administered by Mother.

A lady living in a large apartment house relates the following:

"I had occasion one day to visit the apartment of a neighbor. Such grave and earnest tones of remonstrance reached my ears, as I approached my friend's room, that I hesitated about intruding. I found her winsome young daughter with her, and the mother had evidently been rebuking her, for the girl's face was flushed, and there were tears in her eyes.

"Come in," said my friend. "I have finished what I was saying to Jenny, and I hope she will remember my wishes."

"Ah, these children—these children!" thought I to myself.

"I have just been telling her," continued my friend, "that she must not wear her evening gloves when she goes shopping in the morning. In the first place, it is not genteel; and in the second place, it is extravagant."

Her evening gloves! And yet, I assure you, her tone and expression, and the impression made on the child, would have befitted a serious wrongdoing—one that had issues in time and eternity.



PATENTS Watson E. Coleman, Patent Lawyer, Washington, D. C. Advice and books free. Rates reasonable. Highest references. Best services.

INTEND BUILDING? Free sketch; mail your ideas. John Hansen, Architect, St. Louis

A good man's countenance may fall, but it remains for some better man to break it.

Wash day is smile day if you use Red Cross Ball Blue, American made, therefore the best made. Adv.

Paradoxical. "Is Smith a good man for the place?" "No, he's not a good man; he's a better."

No Chance to Shine. "Githers must find it rather depressing to wear khaki."

"Why so?" "He holds office in several lodges and has a collection of uniforms whose magnificence would shame an oriental potentate."

A Waiting Game. "By the way, old man, how is your suit with Miss Roxley progressing?" "Slowly. I'm playing a waiting game just now." "A waiting game?" "Yes; I'm waiting for her to change her mind."

He Was Scotch Sure. The Tommies were strolling idly along the street when they chanced to gaze into an attractive shop window. Being soldiers, they both had an eye for a pretty girl, and there within the shop was a real winner.

"Sandy," whispered Mike, "shure, she's just the fairest colleen my eyes hiv liver rested on. It's mysilf that'll go in and buy something, an' perhaps she will have a smile for me."

His companion came from "ayont the Tweed," as his answer proved. "I'll gang wi' ye," he said. "But, hoots, mon, ye neednae spend a bawbee. A' ye hev tae dae is tae ask fur change o' a shillin'."

Siam on Mother. Phoebe was bored. In all the six long years of her life she had never spent such a miserable day. Circumstances at last grew too strong for her, and she cried. She was one of those who do not often cry, but who when they do make no secret of it. In short Phoebe nearly lifted the nursery ceiling off.

Upstairs came Phoebe's mother, already dressed in her smartest clothes ready to have ten with a friend.

"Why, what's the matter, Phoebe?" she asked.

Phoebe standing hopelessly in the middle of the nursery only howled the louder, and refused to see anything cheerful about life.

"Just look, Phoebe, at that ugly little face in the looking glass?"

Phoebe immediately became interested and stopped crying.

"Which one, mamma?" she asked.—Pearson's Weekly.



A Call to Your Grocer

will bring a package of

Grape-Nuts

A delicious, healthful food and a pleasing lesson in economy.

"There's a Reason"